

EXERCISE 8A

Circle the letter of the best SYNONYM (the word or phrase most nearly the same as the word in bold-faced type).

1. **resolute** in completing her legal studies a. capricious b. perverse
c. persevering d. erratic e. concise
2. **precision** in speaking a. ineptitude b. exactness c. volubility
d. deception e. haste
3. a(n) **catalyst** for change a. precursor b. reason c. procedure
d. force e. adjunct
4. **analysis** of the crime a. investigation b. catalyst c. premonition
d. depiction e. evidence
5. an efficacious **herbicide** a. insect repellent b. grass seed
c. plant food d. fungus e. weed killer

Circle the letter of the best ANTONYM (the word or phrase most nearly opposite the word in bold-faced type).

6. expectation of **absolution** a. exoneration b. freedom
c. blame d. infringement e. adversity
7. **superfluity** of goods a. excess b. sufficiency c. transitoriness
d. worthlessness e. inadequacy
8. to **resolve** a conflict a. inflame b. conclude c. reconsider
d. mediate e. resume
9. **superlative** performances a. contorted b. extraneous
c. mediocre d. exorbitant e. superior
10. **concise** statements a. voluble b. brief c. expository
d. summary e. abrasive

EXERCISE 8B

Circle the letter of the sentence in which the word in bold-faced type is used incorrectly.

1. a. When the electricity fails, students may feel **absolved** from completing their homework.
b. Martin Luther so abhorred the sale of "indulgences," certificates that **absolved** sins with money, that he made a public protest against church policy.
c. The balloon slowly **absolved** from its ropes and floated away.
d. People sometimes hope that a winning lottery ticket will **absolve** them from debts.
2. a. Following the uproar in 1939 over her being barred from singing at Constitution Hall, Marian Anderson served as a **catalyst** for African-American female singers.
b. Water often acts as a **catalytic** agent.

- c. The American Revolution served as a **catalyst** for French revolutionists.
- d. My dog is **catalytic**; he is terrified of felines.
- 3. a. **Analysis** of well water near the manufacturing plant showed the presence of toxic material.
- b. When **analyzed**, her handwriting revealed that she is neat and discreet.
- c. Literary **analysis** explains ideas, gives examples, and generalizes about the author's main point.
- d. Scientists were asked to **analyses** the gases permeating the air around the volcano.
- 4. a. Mexican *curanderos*, or folk doctors, acquire a **precise** knowledge of medicinal herbs, roots, and wild flowers having curative powers.
- b. Only through years of practice do the great ballerinas develop the **precision** necessary for dancing *Swan Lake* and *Romeo and Juliet*.
- c. Manufacturers act **precisely** when they cut out high fat and calorie content in food products.
- d. The appearance of "Error" on a computer screen jolts the user into giving more **precise** commands.
- 5. a. According to automobile enthusiasts, the Dusenbergs of the 1920s and 1930s remains the **superlative** classic car.
- b. There is only one Eiffel Tower, and it is **superlative**.
- c. Two **superlative** jazz singers, renowned for their vocal flexibility and individual styles, are Ella Fitzgerald and Sarah Vaughan.
- d. Anyone who has watched the tennis champion Martina Navratilova knows her to be a **superlative** player: flexible, controlled, and accurate.

EXERCISE 8C

Fill in each blank with the most appropriate word from Lesson 8. Use a word or any of its forms only once.

- 1. In a series of victories against Spanish forces, Simon Bolivar was a(n) _____ for the drive toward independence of South American countries and is significantly remembered by one of them, Bolivia.
- 2. Packing for an airplane trip usually forces us to leave _____ possessions at home.
- 3. The Australian pediatrician Helen Caldicott has remained _____ in her opposition to nuclear weapons, believing that the human race is gravely endangered.
- 4. Every ice cream company contends that its product is _____.

5. Environmentalists deliver injunctions against harmful pesticides and _____ s.
6. Your _____ directions brought us to your house without a moment of indecision—and in so few words!

REVIEW EXERCISES FOR LESSONS 7 AND 8

1 Fill in the blanks or circle the letter of the best answer.

1. *frangere* : to break : : *caedere* : _____
2. *cernere* : to separate : : *solvere* : _____
3. abscond : run and hide : :
 - a. ascertain : guess
 - b. discern : fail to see differences
 - c. resolve : find a solution
 - d. infringe : respect boundaries
 - e. abhor : maintain tolerance
4. abstemious : moderation : :
 - a. resolute : indecision
 - b. abhorrent : adoration
 - c. superfluous : excess
 - d. discreet : disrespect
 - e. concise : superfluity
5. Which of these English words does *not* have “loosen” or “untie” in its Latin root?
 - a. analysis b. paralyze c. resolve d. abstemious e. absolution
6. Which of these English words does *not* contain a root meaning “separate” or “break”?
 - a. infraction b. discern c. abound d. suffrage e. discreet

2 Writing or Discussion Activities

1. Imagine yourself on a camping trip. Use at least four of the following words in a brief paragraph describing people and situations that you are enjoying and that make you feel positive about them. Give concrete details so that your reader can picture the people and the scene.

abound	concise	discreet	absolve
abstemious	discern	resolve	catalyst